



MARINE WING COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON-28 COMMANDER'S HAZING POLICY STATEMENT



Per Marine Corps Order (MCO 1700.28), hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member, regardless of Service or rank, causes another military member, regardless of Service or rank, to suffer or exposed to an activity, which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, or oppressive. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any form of initiation or congratulatory act that involves physically striking another to inflict pain, piercing another's skin in any

manner, verbally berating another, encouraging another to excessively consume alcohol, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful demeaning or dangerous acts.

Soliciting or coercing another to participate in any such activity is also considered hazing. Hazing need not involve physical contact among or between military members; it can be verbal or psychological in nature.

HAZING IS PROHIBITED. No Marine or Sailor may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. No one in a supervisory position may, by act, word, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if he or she knows or reasonably should have known that hazing may occur. The victim's consent to hazing is not a defense for violating this order. More specifically, the following events unquestionably constitute hazing and shall not be pursued, performed, or condoned:

- **INITIATIONS.** No Marine or Sailor will direct – verbal or implied – any other Marine or Sailor to undergo any type of "rite of passage" to any unit or organization.
- **CORRECTING MILITARY DEFICIENCIES.** Hazing is an ineffective and illegal tool that is employed by cowards and leaders that are too lazy to employ more effective legal means such as counseling, Extra Military Instruction (EMI) and Non-judicial punishment (NJP) to correct their Marines and Sailors. This includes, but is not limited to directing – either verbally or implied – a Marine or Sailor to undergo any form of *incentive physical training (PT)* or *sleep deprivation*.

REPORTING. It is every Marine and Sailor's absolute duty to immediately report any allegations or indications of hazing and there should be no fear of reprisal for doing so.

ZERO TOLERANCE. Per my Command Philosophy, all Marines and Sailors will be treated with dignity and respect. I have a zero-tolerance policy for those who conduct or condone hazing, and violators will be prosecuted. If further assistance is required, please contact the Marine Wing Communications Squadron-28 Equal Opportunity Advisor.

C. S. TSIRLIS
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer